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(i)

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NSA in this document refers to the
Liberian National Security Agency.

RUFGAID/USCINCEUR [REDACTED] VAIHINGEN GE/ [REDACTED] (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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SERIAL: (U)

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***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****

BODY COUNTRY: (U) LIBERIA (LI); SIERRA LEONE (SL); SOUTH AFRICA (SF); UNITED KINGDOM (UK).

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~~SECRET NOFORN~~-----
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE-----
DOI: (U) 20000823.

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SUMMARY: (C) FOUR INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISTS BEG FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SECURE THEIR RELEASE IMMEDIATELY; TORTURED WITH SMOKE AND OXYGEN DEPRIVATION; THREATENED WITH SODOMY UNTIL BLEEDING; ALL TREATMENT HAS BEEN DEALT BY THE HANDS OF THE LIBERIAN NSA.

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DAVID ((BARRIE)), TIMOTHY JOHN ((LAMBON)), GUGULAKHE ((RADEBE)), AND SAMURA (((SORIOUS))). THE FOUR JOURNALISTS APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION, BUT EMOTIONALLY ALL WERE ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE, FREQUENTLY BREAKING INTO TEARS. ALL FOUR BEGGED FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO ACT TO GET THEIR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM CENTRAL PRISON WHERE THEY ARE BEING HELD. 2. ~~(SAP)~~ SOUTH AFRICAN GUGULAKHE RADEBE BEGGED [] TO CONTACT NELSON ((MANDELA)) AND INFORM HIM THAT RADEBE WOULD PAY FOR THE PLANE TICKET FOR MANDELA TO COME TO LIBERIA TO PLEA HIS CASE. RADEBE RELATED THAT FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER THE ATTORNEYS DEPARTED THE CENTRAL PRISON LAST NIGHT (APPROXIMATELY 1815 HRS), ALL FOUR JOURNALISTS WERE TAKEN TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY (NSA) OFFICES. RADEBE RELATED THAT ONCE IN THE NSA BUILDING, HIMSELF, LAMBON, AND BARRIE WERE PLACED IN ONE ROOM WITHOUT WINDOWS SEPARATED FROM SORIOUS. ONCE THE GUARDS LEFT THE ROOM, NSA PERSONNEL CAME INTO THE CELL AND THREATENED TO SODOMIZE RADEBE UNTIL HE BLED FOR SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL PLOT AGAINST LIBERIA.

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

3. ~~(SAP)~~ SORIOUS [] WAS PLACED IN [] A WINDOWLESS CELL INTO WHICH AN ACRID SMOKE WAS PUMPED. AFTER AN INDEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME SOME NSA PERSONNEL

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

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CAAME INTO THE ROOM AND THREATENED TO "CUT MY HEART OUT, EAT IT, AND WRITE CRY LIBERIA ON THE CELL WALLS WITH MY REMAINING BLOOD". AFTER BEING THREATENED BY A PURPORTED HEART MAN, ARMED WITH A KNIFE, THE NSA PERSONNEL PELTED SORIOUS WITH COCKROACHES.

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

4. ~~(S/NF)~~ THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE HIMSELF PERSONALLY ORDERED THE LIBERIAN NATIONAL POLICE (LNP) TO TAKE THE FOUR JOURNALISTS TO THENSA BUILDING WHERE THEY ARRIVED AT APPROXIMATELY 1830 HRS ON 22 AUGUST, AND REMAINED UNTIL 1200 HRS ON 23 AUGUST.

~~(b) (1);Sec. 1.4(c)~~ THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY NEEDS TO KEEP PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF THE CENTRAL PRISON AT ALL TIMES TO MONITOR WHEN THEY MOVE THEM TO THE NSA BUILDING. L AMBON INFORMED ~~(b) (1)~~ THAT THE NSA OFFICERS HAD STATED THAT MOST PROBABLY HE WOULD BE MOVED TO THE CELLS LOCATED AT THE ANTI-TERRORIST BRIGADE TRAINING BASE AT GBATALA ON 23 AUGUST DURING THE NIGHT.

(b)(1);Sec. 1.4(c)

5. ~~(S/NF)~~ ALTHOUGH LAMBON WAS BY FAR IN THE BEST MENTAL STATE OF THE FOUR, HE ALSO BROKE INTO FREQUENT SOBS ~~(b) (1)~~

THE SITUATION WAS VERY SERIOUS

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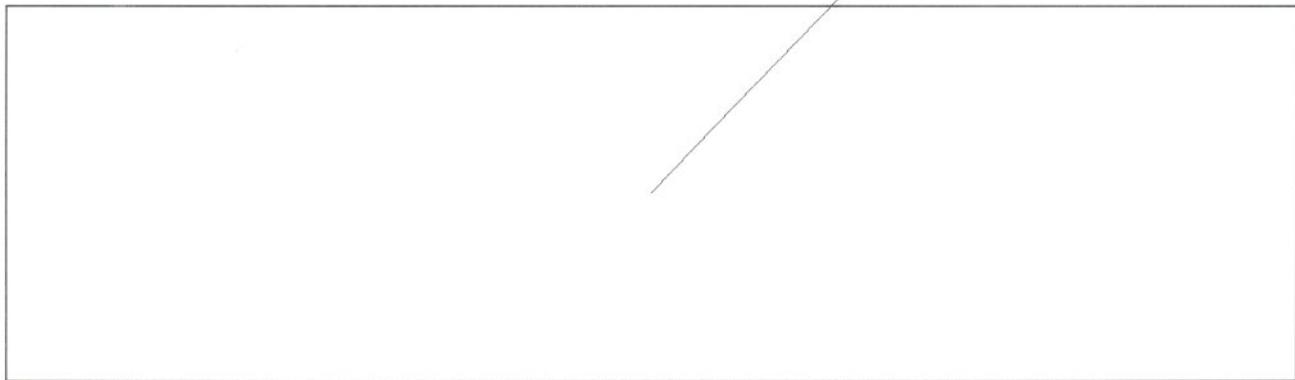
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